

To John Bruce

7 Dec 41.

My dear Sir

You are a member  
of the Percy Society. A little  
while ago I undertook to  
superintend the reprinting  
of two tracts - one by Fosson  
the other by Ramsley - for  
the Society. After I had done  
so, the Council voted them  
two indecent to be issued -  
absurdly enough as I think.

All the copies were  
given to me. Let me tell  
you however that in order

to shew the Comtee that  
lines & asterisks would  
make the objected to (not  
objectionable) passages  
worse, I consented to con-  
trate the tracts, and the  
great mass of copies were  
struck off with lines and  
asterisks.

These latter I sup-  
pose you will not care  
about; but I had only  
20 copies struck off ex-  
actly in accordance with  
the originals. I inclose  
you one of these twenty,  
as a book-rarity which  
you may like to possess.  
It is unbound, for I had



not one bound by me,  
and as I have heard  
three urgent applica-  
tions for copies this morn-  
ing, I was afraid all  
the uncasted copies  
might escape from me  
before I presented you  
with one. Therefore I send  
it as it is.

Many thanks for  
your note just received.  
The publishers are about  
to issue a second edition  
of the "Reasons" with some  
additional (though compara-  
tively trifling) matter. Of  
these I will take care that  
you shall have copies

both for yourself and  
friends who take an in-  
terest about any Shake-  
speare. How long it will  
be before the new edition  
of the "Hepburns"  
appears I do not exactly  
know

I was in hopes that  
Mr F. Madden had  
made a new discovery  
of a Miracle-play. How-  
ever I thank both you  
and him for thinking of  
me.

Yours most sincerely

J. Payne Collier

24 Brompton Sq

Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 1841.